

Developing the Conservation District's Annual Plan Resource Conservation Business Work Plan

Benefits of an Annual Plan Resource Conservation Business Work Plan (Annual Plan)

- Assesses natural resource conditions and needs.
- Set goals and determines actions for the conservation of natural resources.
- Identifies programs and resources for financial and technical assistance for land users to carry out goals and actions.
- Provides cooperation and coordination opportunities for Idaho's Conservation Partnership and other partners.
- Exercises public powers of the Conservation District as a governmental subdivision as granted in Conservation District Law 22-2722, Idaho Code (Subsection 8)
- Meets the requirements of the Antidegradation Plan for Agriculture, Idaho Code 22-2718 (Subsection A) and Idaho Code 22-2718 (Subsection D).
- Potential for increased funding.
- Public involvement.
- Accountability

Planning Steps

- Obtain public participation (See Due Notice attachment)
- Assess conservation needs.
- Identify resource priorities – the Annual Plan should be resource driven not program driven.
- Set objectives, goals & conservation actions (see information below)
 - a. Objective(s) – something worked toward; desired condition of the Conservation District; the ideal state of the resources.
 - b. Goal(s) – the objective toward which an endeavor is directed; more specific i.e. acres to be treated; reduction of tons of soil lost; reduction of tons of sediment entering a water body.
 - c. Action(s) – the process of acting or doing; specific measurable practices to attain goals.
- Identify programs and funding sources to accomplish objectives, goals and actions.

Implementation Steps

- Develop the Plan
- Implement the Plan

Accountability

- Measure progress (Report of Accomplishment/Annual Report)
- Compare accomplishments to Annual Work Plan

Steps to Developing A Conservation District Resource Conservation Business Annual Work Plan

Step 1: Setting Priorities

Determine priorities by having each Conservation District Supervisor independently identify and record the five top priorities he/she would like the Conservation District to address.

Supervisors Resource Priorities List

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Five priorities are recommended. Supervisors may determine and develop the number of priorities that meets the resource conservation needs in their respective Conservation District.

Suggested Priorities List

Animal Waste Management*
District Operations
Fish & Wildlife*
Information/Education*
Irrigated Cropland*
Non-irrigated Cropland*
Pasture/Hayland*
Rangeland*
Recreation
Riparian
Urban
Water Quality*
Water Resources
Woodland
Other – District Determined

*Meets Antidegradation Plan for Agriculture criteria

Step 2: Determining Objectives

List all Supervisors' priorities on a flip chart/board. Each Supervisor independently marks his/her top five priorities from the list. The priorities receiving the greatest amount of votes become the objectives for the District Plan.

Step3: Determining Conservation Actions

List prioritized objectives and each Supervisor independently determines two actions for each of the Conservation District's prioritized objectives. List Conservation Actions on a flip chart/board and Supervisors prioritize actions. See example below.

Prioritized Objective 1. _____

Conservation Action: _____

Conservation Action: _____

Prioritized Objective 2. _____

Conservation Action: _____

Conservation Action: _____

Prioritized Objective 3: _____

Conservation Action: _____

Conservation Action: _____

Prioritized Objective 4: _____

Conservation Action: _____

Conservation Action: _____

Objective 5. _____

Conservation Action: _____

Conservation Action: _____

Information garnered during the planning steps can be edited to reflect specific and measurable actions to be entered on the Annual Plan.

Example of information to be entered on an Annual Work Plan

Resource Priority Area # 1: Non-irrigated Cropland

Objective: Maintain and enhance non-irrigated cropland productivity in Stoddard Creek Sub-watershed.

Goal: Develop and implement conservation plans on 35,000 acres of non-irrigated cropland annually as identified in Stoddard Creek TMDL Implementation Plan.

Actions:

1. Contact all landowners and operators in sub-watershed to determine interest in participating in Agriculture Water Quality Cost Share Program
2. Develop two landowner contracts annually
3. Implement at least one Best Management Practice in each of the two-landowner contracts in FY-2007.
4. Annually Public Outreach Specialist will develop two newsletters focused on non-irrigated Best Management Practices and landowner success stories

Target Date: Month, day, year to implement actions for 7/1/06 thru 6/30/07.

Person(s) Responsible: List responsible parties by name for example Joe Smith, not NRCS, District Conservationist or Administrative Assistant.